January 2023



Featured Business

Turtle Ridge Gallery 11736 Mink River Road Ellison Bay, WI 54210 920-854-4839 Turtleridgegallery.com

Important Dates

Jan 4th- Town Board Meeting 7pm Jan 18th- Town Board Meeting 7pm Feb 1st- Town Board Meeting 7pm Feb 15th- Town Board Meeting 7pm

FROM YOUR TOWN CHAIRMAN

The Board has received a proposal from Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission to do a plan of action for the Mariners Park in Gills Rock. Bay Lake only works with municipalities. The Town belongs to Door County Economic Development Corporation and Bay Lakes Regional Planning. Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission is a multi-service agency that provides a variety of local, State and Federal programs.

The Board decided to also contact Ayes Associates and Landscapes of Place to see if they would also do a plan of action for the park. Ayres Associates is a consulting firm that works with communities and companies to design, plan, map and fund roads, buildings, communications, parks and rivers. Landscape of Place offers Landscape Architecture, restoration planning and design, land stewardship and ecological restoration.

The Board approve the "Town-wide Fiber Project Agreement: Evaluation Phase" which further clarifies our working with Nsight and Farr Technologies for the Town-wide fiber project. This is another step forward in the effort to provide fast reliable internet via a fiber optic cable to Liberty Grove. As mentioned in previous newsletters once we have the engineering plan in place, we will be able to go out for bids to complete the project. The timeline has been somewhat of a moving target, but the best guess currently is that the design should be available this year and actual construction could take place late 2023 and continue in 2024. We do not anticipate it will be done in phases.

The Board has also confirmed its commitment to fund future Fire Department vehicles using excess room tax revenue. We have in place that up to 90% of the room tax revenue may be allocated to non-profit organizations in Liberty Grove. Those organizations are asked to submit their requests yearly prior to the budget preparation. It was noted in the meeting that supply chain issues has disrupted the normal acquisition of replacement vehicles for the Fire Department. The result of that will likely mean purchasing events will be much closer together than previously anticipated. The Town receives room tax revenue two months after collection. June revenues are received in August is an example. We also know, as reported by Supervisor Ward that revenues are up considerably in recent years.

The current Wisconsin Towns Association Magazine has an article about the large surplus in the State coffers. That has also been reported in various news outlets. Hope is that some dollars will be allocated to help local municipalities fund necessary projects.

FROM YOUR TOWN BOARD

Registering to Vote or Requesting a Mailed Ballot

The processes are easy and can be done online at www.myvote.wi.gov. You may also email your full name, registered address, date of the election, mailing address, and a copy of your photo ID to the Town Office at tibertygrove@gmail.com.





REMEMBER

A delicious and nutritious lunch is provided by.

The Senior Resource Center
At the
Liberty Grove Town Hall

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Every week, except on Holidays.

Call **920-746-2523**
24 hours before the first time you come for lunch.

Door Count Coastal Byways

The mission of all designated Scenic Byways is to educate/presserve/protect/enhance & promote the outlined intrinsic values required by the Federal Highway Administration National Scenic Byway & Wisconsin Scenic Byway programs. In addition we collaborate with other local/regional & state agencies to further these goals. www.doorcountycoastalbyway.org

<u>Door County North</u>-local business organization promoting and supporting this area. www.doorcountynorth.org

Ellison Bay Service Club

Visit their **Facebook page** to find out the latest news and activities in **Ellison Bay** and **all over Liberty Grove**.

www.facebook.com/ellisonbayserviceclubdc

GEO-DC

Cultivating knowledge and stewardship of the Niagara Escarpment corridor and its geological, ecological, and cultural wonders in people of all ages and from all walks of life.

https://Geo-dc.org or visit their Facebook page.

<u>Liberty Grove Historical Society</u>- supporting the past, present, and future of Liberty Grove. <u>www.libertygrovehistorical.org</u>

Laughing is one of the best exercises, it is like running inside your mind. You can do it almost anywhere and it is even better with a friend...

NWTC Community Education Classes

To see all the classes/credit classes offered in Sister Bay go to www.nwtc.edu and click on "Find a Class" by location and choose "Learning Innovation Center" in the drop-down box. Learn from home via Zoom, a video meeting platform.

A computer, laptop, or tablet with reliable broadband will be required for some of the classes. Instructions for accessing the class via Zoom will be provided. You can also register by calling 1-888-385-NWTC, or you can call 920-746-4970 for assistance, or contact the Learning and Innovation Center at sisterbay@nwtc.edu

Mark your calendars now for the **Aging Resource Fair** from 11 am to 2 pm on Thursday, January 12. About a dozen area agencies will be on hand to answer your questions about healthy aging and caregiving. Enjoy complimentary soup from Galecktables and attend any (or all!) of the following presentations:

11 am – 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's 11:30 am - Healthy Eating for One or Two Noon - How to Get Better Sleep 12:30 pm - Reduce your Risk of Falling 1 pm- Physical Therapy for a Healthy Bladder 1:30 pm - Back and Spinal Health

To register, call 920-746-4970. Walk-ins are welcome. This event is free.



Door County Library- Sister Bay / Liberty Grove

Tuesday January 10th

2:30 p.m. Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library Tuesday January 10th Readers Rampant Book Club.

Join us in-person or via Zoom to discuss: "Men of God" by J.P. Jordan. Copies of the book are available via the online catalog: InfoSoup.org. Also, on Libby (eBook and audiobook). Participants and listeners are welcome. Visit our DoorCountyLibrary.org calendar for Zoom details. Contact: Christina, 920-854-2721.

January Screen-Free Craft Bag Pickup. Stop by any of our Door County Library locations for a fun January craft bag including glitter snowman mosaic, wooden snowman snow measuring stick, and colorable bookmakers. For ages $4K - 2^{nd}$ grade. Contact: Beth, 920-868-3471.

Winter Hours Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library, starting January 1st.

Monday: 10-4pm Tuesday: 1-7pm Wednesday: 10-4pm Thursday: 10-3pm Friday: 10-3pm Saturday: 10-2pm

Annual Ellison Bay Ground Hog Day Parade

Annual Ellison Bay Ground Hog Day Parade February 2, 2023

Begin at The Vault Parking Lot and end at Hillside Inn/ Hugel Haus parking lot
Event Description – Parade for Ground Hog Day
Staging for the event with cars and people/pets walking is 3:30 pm at the Vault and The Post
Office
Time – 4 PM-5 PM
Admission – Free
Phone – 920-854-4450

Baileys Harbor Community Winter Farm Market

At the Town Hall, 10-2pm. Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, and April 08. Many great vendors to browse. Visit baileysharbor.com or call 920-839-2366 for details.

<u>Process for building a home or placing an accessory building on your property</u>

Many people call the office asking what the process is for adding structures to their property. Generally, speaking, the County deals with correct placement of structures on properties including well and septic and the Town deals with the actual construction of dwellings and accessory structures. The Town is under County Zoning so the first step is to go to the County Land Services department at 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay. Their phone number is 888-743-1844, ext. 2323. Once all permits are approved, you would then complete a Town of Liberty Grove building permit. The form can also be found on the Town website. Libertygrovewi.gov

Our building inspector is here on Thursday mornings from 8:30am to 10:00am. Appointments for other times are also possible. Call John Dwonch at 920-495-1864.

Snow Plowing

A reminder that this is snow plowing season. Plowing or shoveling the snow into or across town roads is not permitted and can result in fines. If you have your driveway plowed by a private individual, please remind them not to plow across town roads

A reminder that State Statutes prohibit anyone from placing or causing to be placed on highways any foreign substance which may cause damage to vehicles. This comes into focus more doing winter with snow. Plowing, blowing shoveling snow on the roadway is prohibited. Section 86.022 of the statutes makes it a misdemeanor to place obstructions in a road ditch that impedes drainage. This applies to compacted snow being placed in ditches.

Unfortunately, mailboxes often bear the blunt of winter when roads are being plowed. The placement of mailboxes alongside the road has specific regulations that are available at the Town Office. Heavy snow may cause damage even though the mailbox is correctly placed. Please contact the Town Office in the event your mailbox is damaged. Our town crew does an excellent job of clearing our 105 miles of roads. With an additional crew member this year clearing will be timelier but that is often determined by the amount of snow, time of the snowfall and having all equipment available due to breakdowns.

The <u>2023 Dog Licenses & Tags</u> for new dogs and renewals are available. You must apply for the license before April 1, 2023, to avoid a late fee.

Fees are: Altered- \$5.00 and Regular- \$10.00

You will need to provide a certificate from your dog's veterinarian showing his/her current rabies shot, expiration date, the manufacturer and serial number for that vaccine.

Liberty Grove Residents, please take a few minutes and complete this survey, if you haven't already done so. Thank you!



Help Us Get Internet to <u>Your</u> Home or Business



Door County has hired a Broadband Coordinator and established a Broadband Committee to help guide the deployment of Fiber to the Premise (FTTP) throughout Door County. In addition your local municipality has a committee that is working at a local level.

We need all residents, property and business owners to participate in this survey to show what internet services are in place in the County. It is projected to cost \$140 million for Fiber to the Premise in Door County. It is critical for us to obtain as much Federal and State funding as possible and not leave anyone behind.

Every survey completed can help:

- The State obtain more federal funding for Fiber.
- The County and Municipalities qualify and apply for more State and Federal grants to help pay for Fiber to the premise.

We need you to complete this short 10 minute survey that includes an internet speed test from your home or business (or both) at fibernetdoorcounty.org. If you do not have internet access available at your home or business please fill out the paper survey and return it to the address provided.

If you do not have internet access from your home or business OR you only have cellular access:

Please fill out the survey below and mail it to the address at the bottom of this sheet OR call 608-267-3595 to do this survey over the telephone.

1. Full Street Address

Other (Please explain)

- 2. Unit Number (If You Have One)
- 3. City 4. Zip Code
- 5. Place Type (Circle All That Apply): Home Business School Library Other (Please explain)____
- 6. Do You Rent or Own this Place? (Circle Response): Rent Own Neither

Please mail this survey back to: Broadband Coordinator 421 Nebraska Street Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 OR email to: jhatch@co.door.wi.us



Take the broadband survey and speed test from your home internet connection at:

http://maps.psc.wi.gov/apps/WISER or FIBERNETDOORCOUNTY.ORG

Wisconsin Trivia Wisconsin is modest about its lakes.

Minnesota's official motto may be the "Land of 10,000 Lakes", but Wisconsin is not one to brag. The lake count comes in somewhere over 15,000, but the Wisconsin DNR modestly publishes a <u>listing</u> of 16,692 lakes.